

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Harry E. Mitchell yesterday wrote to the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Rep. Howard Berman, urging vigorous and strong enforcement of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010, H.R. 2194.

"I believe that it is critical for the United States to work aggressively to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons," said Mitchell. "A nuclear Iran would not only threaten Israel, our vitally important ally in the region, but the United States as well. We simply cannot allow this to happen."

On June 24, 2010, H.R. 2194 passed both the House of Representatives and Senate by a bipartisan vote of 408-8 and 99-0, respectively. President Obama signed the bill into law on July 1, 2010, and it is now Public Law No: 111-195.

The Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010, H.R. 2194, directs the President to impose sanctions if a person has, with actual knowledge, made an investment of \$20 million or more that directly and significantly contributed to Iran's ability to develop its petroleum resources, or shows support or involvement with Iran's domestic refining efforts to international banking institutions involved with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), Iran's illicit nuclear program or its support for terrorism.

Mitchell, who travelled to Israel last year to explore critical foreign policy and national security challenges facing both Israel and the United States, took to the House floor in June in support of H.R. 2194. This was his second trip to Israel.

"Iran is not stopping its ruthless quest for nuclear weapons while Congress continues to deliberate. We simply cannot allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons. We must act quickly and boldly to prevent that from happening. A nuclear Iran would not only pose a dire threat to Israel, a vitally important ally in the region, but to the United States as well," said Mitchell.

His floor speech can be found [here](#).

The text of the letter to Chairman Berman is below.

September 21, 2010

The Honorable Howard Berman

Chairman

House Committee on Foreign Affairs

2170 Rayburn

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Berman:

Thank you for your leadership in helping enact H.R. 2194, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 which imposes tough, new sanctions on Iran.

In the face of continued Iranian defiance, however, it is vitally important for Congress to ensure that the new law is fully enforced. I urge your committee to maintain vigorous oversight.

As you know, earlier this month, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) released a report which documented Iran's continued refusal to cooperate and allow international monitoring of its nuclear program. More ominously, IAEA warned:

"Based on an overall analysis undertaken by the Agency of all the information available to it, the Agency remains concerned about the possible existence in Iran of past or current undisclosed nuclear related activities involving military related organizations, including activities related to the development of a nuclear payload for a missile."

A nuclear-armed Iran would not only threaten Israel, our vitally important ally in the region, but the United States as well. We simply cannot allow this to happen.

Thank you for your continued concern.

Sincerely,

Harry E. Mitchell

Member of Congress

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